

Art Unit: ***

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1-4 are cancelled

5. (Amended) A method for manufacturing an inherently stable container made of flexible material, comprising the following steps:

- a) folding a continuous film of flexible material of appropriate width, to obtain a pouch having a longitudinal heat-seal and evenly spaced transverse heat-seals, followed by cropping the folded film in a direction transverse to the longitudinal heat seal;
- b) heat-sealing in sides of the pouch, at a region of the transverse heat-seals, forming two triangles having wings laterally disposed relative to the longitudinal heat-seal;
- c) punch opening said pouch, and optionally filling the pouch with a product;
- d) folding and bonding the wings laterally relative to the longitudinal heat-seal and, after filling the pouch, simultaneously with the bonding of the wings, heat-sealing an upper open mouth of the pouch.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein in the first step the film is folded so as to form the pouch, which is closed longitudinally by heat-sealing overlapping flaps of said film, said heat-sealing being preferably located at a center of one of two flat faces of said pouch.

7. The method of claim 5, wherein a longitudinal dimension of the pouch is determined by way of transverse heat-seals.

8. The method of claim 6, wherein the heat-sealing of the triangles comprises heat-sealing of two overlapping sheets of flexible material that constitute said pouch so as to form at the base, said two triangles with vertex wedging inside said pouch.

9. The method of claim 5, further comprising forming ribs during the step for forming the heat-sealed triangles, said ribs being adapted to facilitate, by guided deformation, opening of the pouch at filling.

10. The method of claim 9, wherein during filling of the pouch with product a substantially flat base forms, while said wings formed due to the heat-sealed triangles protrude laterally beyond said base.

11. The method of claim 10, wherein following said filling step said wings are folded toward the container and are retained thereon.

12. The method of claim 5, comprising insertion of the heat-sealed triangles inside the container by way of pushing means which push said triangles from the outside inward.

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13. (Amended) A method for manufacturing an inherently stable container made of flexible material, comprising the steps of:

a) folding a continuous film of flexible material of appropriate width, to obtain a pouch having a longitudinal heat-seal and evenly spaced transverse heat-seals, followed by (transversely) cropping the folded film in a direction transverse of the longitudinal heat-seal ;

b) heat-sealing two triangles having wings into sides of the pouch lateral to the longitudinal heat-seal, each of the triangles having a base which coincides with one edge of the pouch and a vertex which wedges inwards said pouch lateral to the longitudinal heat-seal punch opening said pouch, and optionally filling the pouch with a product folding and bonding the wings onto the triangles.

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